

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Inventor(s): Michael R. Rice, Robert B. Lowrance, Martin R. Elliott, Jeffrey C. Hudgens and Eric A. Englhardt

Title:

METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPORTING SUBSTRATE CARRIERS

Serial No.: Filed:

10/764,982

Examiner:

January 26, 2004 Mark A. Deuble

Group Art Unit: 3651

. Transmitted herewith is:

 $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ PTO Form 1449 and Information Disclosure Statement with four cited references.

 \mathbf{X} Transmittal and Fax Cover Sheet.

| FEE CALCULATION | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Fee Items | Claims Filed | Included With Basic Fee | Extra Claims | Fee Rate | Total | | | | | |
| Total Claims | N/A | - 20 = | -0- | X \$18.00 | \$0.00 | | | | | |
| Independent Claims | N/A | - 3 = | -0- | X \$88.00 | \$0.00 | | | | | |
| Basic Filing Fee \$790.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL FEES | | | | | | | | | | |

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$0.00 to Deposit Account No. 04-1696.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to XXDeposit Account No. <u>04-1696</u>. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.

XXPlease address all future correspondence to: **Customer # 41161** Dugan & Dugan, PC 55 South Broadway Tarrytown, NY 10591

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

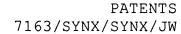
Date of Deposit: April 20, 2005

Signature:

Respectfully submitted,

Brian M. Dugan Registration No. 41,72

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Michael R. Rice, Robert B. Lowrance, Martin

R. Elliott, Jeffrey C. Hudgens and Eric A.

Englhardt

Serial No. : 10/764,982

Filed : January 26, 2004

For : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSPORTING

SUBSTRATE CARRIERS

Group Art Unit: 3651

Customer No. : 41161

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,110,249, Arthur E. Norman

U.S. Patent No. 6,036,426, Gary Hillman

U.S. Patent No. 6,183,186, Peltola et al.

Foreign Art Reference No. EP 0 277 536 (EPO)

These references are also listed on the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement (Form PTO-1449).

Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian M. Dugan√Esq.

Registration No. 41,720

Dugan & Dugan, PC

Attorneys for Applicants

(914)332-9081

Dated: April 20, 2005

Tarrytown, New York

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| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office | | | | Docket No 7163/S | | Serial No.: 10/764,982 | | | | |
| AFR 7 5 2005 AF | | | | | Applicants: Michael R. Rice, et al | | | | | |
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| | | | | | \$ 2 . 14 Q | Patent D | ocuments | | | II |
| *Examiner | 1 atch D | Document | Issue | T | | <u> </u> | , | | Filing | Date If |
| Initial | | Number | Date | Name | e | Class | Subcl | ass | | opriate |
| | US-1 | 5,110,249 | 05/05/92 | Arthur E. Normai | n | | | | | |
| | US-2 | 6,036,426 | 03/14/00 | Gary Hillman | | | | | | |
| | US-3 | 6,183,186 | 02/06/01 | Peltola et al. | | | | | | |
| | US-4 | | | | | | | | | |
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| Fore | ign Paten | t Documents | • | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | Tı | ranslation |
| | | Document Number | Date | Count | ry | Class | Subclass | | Yes | No |
| | F-1 | EP 0 277 536 | 08/10/88 | EPC |) | | | (A | X bstract) | |
| | F-2 | | | | | | | | | |
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| | F-5 | | | | | | | | | |
| ОТН | IER ART | (Including Auth | or, Title, Da | te, Pertinent Pages | s, Etc.) | | | | • | |
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| | OT-2 | | | | | | | | | |
| F | OT-3 | | D-t- C | 1 | | | | | | |
| Examiner | | | Date Considered | | | | | | | |
| | | | | her or not citation by of this form wit | | | | line thro | ough cit | ation if |